

**CHIPPEWA VALLEY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION – SPECIAL MEETING/BOARD WORKSHOP
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

September 21, 2020

President Bednard called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was waived.

Present: Members Aquino, Bednard, Cardamone, DeMuyneck Zech,
Patzert, Pyden and Sobah
Absent: None
Also, Present: Mr. Roberts, Mr. Sederlund, Dr. Blanchard, Dr. Brosky, Ms. Licari,
Mr. Sibley, Mr. Kozlowski, Ms. Blain, Ms. Monnier-White and Ms. Adlam

Note: Due to Governor Whitmer instituting Michigan Executive Directive 2020-02 – Public Meetings of State of Michigan Public Bodies during the COVID-19 Emergency, the board of education meeting was conducted virtually via GoToMeeting.

MOTION #09/23/20 – Moved by Member Cardamone and supported by Member DeMuyneck Zech to amend the agenda.

A roll call vote was taken. Member Cardamone, yes; Member DeMuyneck Zech, yes; Member Aquino, yes; Member Bednard, yes; Member Patzert, yes; Member Pyden, yes and Member Sobah, yes. **Motion carried.**

MOTION #09/24/20 – Moved by Member Aquino and supported by Member DeMuyneck Zech to amend the agenda to *change* Item F. to New Business, *add* New Business Item F.1 – Approve Tech Plan (Mr. Roberts). *Change Of and By Board Members to Item G., add* Item H. - Executive Session (*8.h.-Attorney/Client Privilege*), *and. change* Adjournment to Item I.

A roll call vote was taken—Member Aquino, yes; Member DeMuyneck Zech, yes; Member Bednard, yes; Member Cardamone, yes; Member Patzert, yes; Member Pyden, yes and Member Sobah, yes. **Motion carried.**

From the Community

1. Ms. Angela Gerrard (district parent), wanted to reiterate from last meeting how remote learning is not working for her family. Ms. Gerrard has asked for face-to-face instruction immediately. She is also asking for no mask wearing while student is at their desk.
2. Ms. Kacey Nappe (district parent), realizes the district has tried their best but with her son's special needs, remote learning is a great challenge. Asked to consider looking to bring back special needs kids, along with general ed students.
3. Mr. Terry Prince (district parent), feels the district took his choice away for face-to-face instruction. Remote learning is difficult for his kindergarten daughters. Mr. Prince indicated teachers are doing their best.
4. Ms. Kristen Karr (district parent), indicated the teachers have been amazing and she agrees that there are tech issues. Ms. Karr said her special ed student is not engaged. Encourages Board Members to visit homes to see kids receiving a remote education. Ms. Karr also stated her son is on the computer too long.
5. Ms. Angie Simon (district parent), addressed the Board of Education at the last meeting and continues to have concerns with kids and people getting sick and attending school regardless. She does want her kids back in school and knows what she is risking by sending kids back to school.
6. Mr. Tom Sokol (district parent), wants face-to-face to open for all grades, kindergarten through 2nd grade is not enough. Mr. Sokol is convinced kids are not at risk and should be back in school.
7. Ms. Tara Boehne (district parent), has left a district who was going face-to-face and enrolled her 3 children in Chippewa Valley for the virtual learning. Agrees there are tech issues and it is a long day for her first grader but believes staying remote is the best option right now.
8. Ms. Dawn Dameron (district parent) thinks the teachers are amazing but feels that remote learning is not sustainable because of tech issues. Ms. Dameron wants a choice for her children.
9. Ms. Ashley Griffiths (district parent) indicated her daughter has missed much school since going remote. She does not support going face-to-face 100 percent but does support some remote from home and some face-to-face learning.
10. Ms. Jennifer Pillow-White (district parent), complemented the staff for doing a great job and indicated she was grateful to be a part of support group on Facebook. Thanks to the district administrators for also being flexible and asks that we remain virtual, just make it more user-friendly.
11. Ms. Michelle Laforest (district parent), mentioned her son is very happy to be remote learning right now. The teacher is wonderful and very good at interacting with students.
12. Ms. Kristine Tillman (district parent), with having 3 kids in the district and with education being their priority, it has been very difficult for her family to accommodate the daily schedule. Would like to get back to in-person learning, even if it is for only two days a week.
13. Mr. & Mrs. Alcabl (district parents), feels teachers are doing a phenomenal job. It has been the right decision to start remote. Macomb County has the highest numbers. They are hoping the Board of Education and administration makes the right decision.

14. Ms. Anna Neuner (district parent), thanked the Board of Education for speaking once again. Her three children have been struggling with staying on-line. Her son is not happy with his on-line vocational class.
15. Ms. Andrea Goss (district parent/employee), has a 3rd grade son and is not advocating to go back to face-to-face. She understands that this is any enormous task trying to please everyone but feels it is getting better. Does not think the district should go face-to-face and suggests that other parents give the district more time to work with the kids.
16. Mr. Chad Cable (district parent), wants everyone to look at and consider the numbers and the science. Mr. Cable indicated that the testing numbers have gone down as shown on macombcounty.gov website.
17. Mr. Adam Knuckles (district parent/employee spouse), expressed concern that some people are willing to put their loved ones in danger. His wife would be in danger of getting COVID. Mr. Knuckles suggests parents teach and work with their children on the technology.
18. Ms. Cortney Rocho (district parent), is not happy with the tech due to interruptions, noise, and lack of communication from the district. Teams has been inconsistent.
19. Ms. Amy Ward (L'Anse Creuse teacher), thanks the Board of Education for allowing her to speak. The decision made to go remote is the correct decision. In her district, where students are face-to-face, all the normal things she would do as a teacher for her classroom, she cannot do. For example, kids are sitting in rows all facing forward, constantly washing/sanitizing hands, wearing face coverings all day.

MOTION #09/25/20 – Moved by Member Pyden and supported by Member DeMuyck Zech to approve the General Consent Agenda to:

- Approve Minutes of the Special Meeting held on September 14, 2020
- Approve Personnel Transactions

A roll call vote was taken. Member Pyden, yes; Member DeMuyck Zech, yes; Member Aquino, yes; Member Bednard, yes; Member Cardamone, yes; Member Patzert, yes and Member Sobah, yes. **Motion carried.**

Board Workshop

1. Tech

Superintendent Roberts discussed a tech proposal for staffing and security to better meet the needs of the students, staff, and families.

Ms. Sarah Monnier-White (Dir., Technology) discussed a plan to improve Technology Services. This plan entails moving to a 1:1 platform and right-sizing tech staff to meet district-user needs.

Mr. Scott Sederlund (Asst. Super., Business and Operations) discussed funding for a 1:1 device initiative through the Cares Act, bond, and grant funding.

2. Delivery of Instruction

The Superintendent and administrators from the Educational Services Department presented a plan to bring K-5 students and those with special needs back to school with a hybrid schedule. Superintendent Roberts reviewed the factors impacting the decision to start in a remote manner. He discussed COVID data from the middle of August and that same data now. He recognized the effort that central administration, building administration, and teaching staff have made to make the remote learning plan successful. He expressed understanding that some families/students have experienced difficulty with this format.

Educational Services administrators presented information on the following:

- Grade levels and programs impacted
- Plan design for programs for students with special needs
- Scheduling
- Safety protocols
- Transportation, lunch, delivery of special classes, e.g., art
- Timeline for implementation

MOTION #09/26/20 - Moved by Member Aquino and supported by Member Patzert that the Chippewa Valley Schools Board of Education approve the Tech Plan as presented in this Special Meeting. This includes the purchase of computers to achieve the ratio of 1 to 1, and the addition of staff to support this increase in devices.

A roll call vote was taken. Member Aquino, yes; Member Patzert, yes; Member Bednard, yes; Member Cardamone, yes; Member DeMuyneck Zech, yes; Member Pyden, yes and Member Sobah, yes. **Motion carried.**

****Note: Member Sobah left meeting at 10:05 p.m.***

Of and by Board Members

- Member Aquino complimented the staff for doing a great job refining the hybrid plan. She thanked everyone for their hard work.
- Member Patzert thanks staff and administration for listening to the community expressed his desire to move ahead with the new plan.
- Member Bednard described the enormity of this decision. He acknowledged that some parents were disappointed with the remote plan.

MOTION #09/27/20 – Moved by Member DeMuyck Zech and supported by Member Pyden that the meeting be adjourned into Executive Session (*8.h. – Attorney/Client Privilege*).

A roll call vote was taken. Member DeMuyck Zech yes; Member Pyden, yes; Member Aquino, yes; Member Bednard, yes; Member Cardamone, yes; Member Patzert, yes and Member Pyden, yes; Member Sobah, absent. **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 10:15 p.m.

Meeting reconvened into Open Session at 11:00 p.m.

MOTION #09/28/20 – Moved by Member Pyden and supported by Member DeMuyck Zech to adjourn the meeting.

A roll call vote was taken. Member Pyden, yes; Member DeMuyck Zech, yes; Member Aquino, yes; Member Bednard, yes; Member Cardamone, yes; Member Patzert, yes, and Member Sobah, absent. **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 11:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Cardamone, Secretary
Board of Education